

In Memory of
Army Private First Class
Willie Bauer
Greenway, South Dakota
McPherson County

August 22, 1928 -- November 13, 1951
Died Non-Battle in Korea



Willie Bauer was born in Greenway, South Dakota on August 22, 1928, the only surviving son of Reinhold and Bertha (Lutz) Bauer. Willie spent his whole life in and around Greenway, where he worked as a laborer and farm hand for people in the area.

On April 16, 1951, Willie was inducted in the U.S. Army in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. After his basic training at Camp Roberts, California, Pfc. Bauer came home briefly on leave but then was sent overseas on September 19, 1951.

Several months later, on November 13, 1951, Private First Class Willie Bauer took three mortar rounds in the chest while in training camp. He was taken to the battalion aid station where he died because of that friendly fire accident. His body was later returned to the United States, and he was reburied with military honors at the cemetery in Greenway.

Private First Class Bauer was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Korean War Service Medal.

This entry was respectfully submitted by Casey Asheim, 8th grade, Spearfish Middle School, Spearfish, SD, May 15, 2004. Information for this entry was provided by the South Dakota National Guard Museum, an application for a veteran's bonus, and newspaper clippings. (P/S/F/A 6/6/04.)